

# CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF, RIVERSIDE

*Where language and learning thrive!*



## *PAWSitive Reflections*

*News and Information for Families, Staff, & Friends*

NOVEMBER 2011

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Artwork Created by Kindergarten Class

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**Special Thanks:**

Alyce Berard  
Terri Vincent

## Message from Superintendent Mal

Welcome to the  
2011-12 School  
Year!

Although I look  
forward to the  
beginning of each  
school year, this  
year is especially  
exciting because of  
positive actions  
taken within CDE

( California  
Department of

Education ) that directly impact CSDR. Additionally, we enter this year armed with statistical data which confirms that several previous programs implemented at CSDR are making a positive impact on student learning. Here are some of the particulars related to both CDE and CSDR actions:

- CSDR has shown a steady increase on the state's Academic Performance Index ( API ) which is used by the state to report student performance on such tests as the Measurement of Academic Performance and California Standards Test. Data Driven Instruction, Language Planning and other researched methodologies used at CSDR have been very successful in helping our students increase their academic standing with the state.
- Student behavior has significantly improved due to the focus on the Character Counts! and the Boy's Town programs which were incorporated throughout the school and after-school activities several years ago. These two programs that focus on teaching children the importance of developing strong positive character traits were combined with CSDR's anti-bullying program and has resulted in a significant decrease of incident reports within the school. A safe and comfortable learning environment has always been a top priority for CSDR and I'm happy to report that statistics are reflecting the positive nature of CSDR programs.
- The state has selected Mr. Scott Kerby as the new Division Director of State Special Schools, California Department of Education. Some of you may remember Mr. Kerby at CSDR as a Student Services Specialist. In that position he helped to develop a stronger relationship between CSDR and referring school districts, assisted with IEP compliance



*Superintendent Grossinger welcomes new Deaf Superintendent Virnig at "sister" CSD Fremont, and new State Special Schools Division Director Kerby, a former CSDR specialist*



## Message from Mal (Continued from Page 2)

issues; and worked to create a series of marketing workshops to give to parents, visitors, and other educational agencies which highlight what CSDR offers Deaf and hard-of-hearing students.

- Sean Virnig was chosen to lead CSDF, our sister school in Fremont. I was privileged to work with Mr. Virnig and Mr. Kerby this summer as we created a 2011-2014 strategic blueprint for both schools.
- The California Department of Education (CDE) continued this year to celebrate Deaf Awareness in their Sacramento offices. In addition to the employees taking American Sign Language classes at work, CDE has brought in several guest speakers to present on deaf-related topics. CDE also highlights the student achievements of various deaf students throughout the state. I am always delighted to see CDE staff greet me in sign language as they eagerly try out their newly acquired skills.

California's State Superintendent of Public Schools, Tom Torlakson, has visited CSDR and shown a great deal of support for our methods of educating deaf children. He recently sent out a two-page letter to school administrators within the California school system endorsing the teaching of ASL and asking educational agencies to view the informative DVD, *Through Your Child's Eyes: American Sign Language*. This DVD emphasizes the importance of deaf and hard-of-hearing children receiving a visual language and cites the research that supports this method.

On a final note, CSDR is hosting a public Open House on November 11 (11-11-11). There will be campus tours, information booths, a BBQ, and an opportunity to observe our classes and meet with staff. Last year over six hundred people joined us at this event! Hope to see you there!

~ Mal Grossinger,  
Superintendent  
California School for  
the Deaf, Riverside



*First graders' annual Deaf Pride parade culminated in the Superintendent office with Mal Grossinger, Director of Instruction Alyce Berard, and State Special Schools Superintendent Scott Kerby. Read more on page 19.*

## CSDR Mission:

California School for the Deaf, Riverside offers comprehensive educational and extra-curricular programs that prepare students to achieve their full academic, social, and career potential.

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## Welcome New Staff



**Fadi Alberre '03**  
Counselor – Middle School Boys



**Tyler Bayarsky '03**  
Early Childhood Education Teacher



**Heather Dans-McCrory**  
Counselor – Middle School Girls



**Remedios De Guzman**  
Office Technician – Food Services



**Ida Dotson**  
Counselor – High School Girls



**David Douglas**  
Stationary Engineer



**Ingrid Flemming**  
Special Needs Teacher



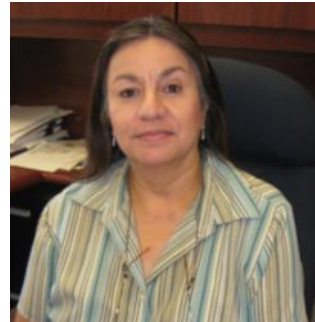
**Sylvia Fraser '82**  
Counselor – Special Needs



**Vincent Goze**  
Accounting Officer Specialist



**Dane Hawkins**  
Electrician



**Gloria Hernandez**  
Director of Business Services



**Erica Hossler**  
Counselor – High School Girls



**Maryann Izzo-Gonzales '96**  
Supervising Counselor — High School Girls, Non-Athletes & T.O.P. Program



**Amy Kimmerle**  
Middle School Language Arts & Social Studies Teacher



**Laurie Lewis**  
Occupational Therapist



**Edwin Miller**  
Elementary Special Needs Teacher

# New Staff



## Welcome New Staff



**Erlinda Miller '82**  
Transition Options Program Teacher



**Rachel Mingo**  
School Psychologist



**Bobby Polstra**  
Physical Education Teacher Assistant



**Michelle Showzgird**  
Counselor – High School Girls



**Rantz Teeters**  
Counselor – High School Boys



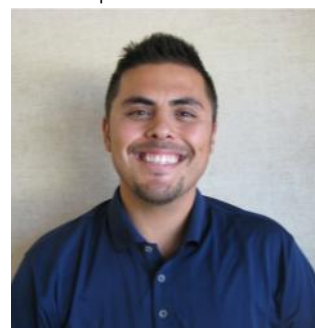
**Diane Tran**  
Supervisor of Dietetics



**Scarlett Valencia '97 High School**  
Instructional Teacher Specialist



**Ignacio Vasquez**  
Assistant Information System Analyst



**Alexander Zernovoj**  
Curriculum Teacher Specialist –  
Language Arts & ASL Team Teacher

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## Joint Meeting

**CSDR and CSDF:** On Thursday, October 28, the Directors from CSDR and CSD-Fremont met for their first joint meeting to share strategies on how both schools can work together to improve student achievement and work towards becoming a state and national resource for all Deaf programs. CDE State Special Schools Division Director, Scott Kerby, facilitated the meeting in CSDR's Superintendent Conference Room. The group had the opportunity to have the special Halloween lunch which was prepared by our own FEAST program.



***CSDR/CSDF Directors from left to right:***

*Superintendent Mal Grossinger (CSDR), Superintendent Sean Virnig (CSD-F), Ethan Bernstein (CSD-F), Farley Warsaw (CSDR), Jennie Machado (CSDR), Lisa Viall (CSD-F), Alyce Berard (CSDR), Laura Peterson (CSD-F), Scott Kerby (CDE)*

## New Family Orientation During the Weekend

New Family Orientation was held during a full three-day weekend on a



*Superintendent Mal welcomes new families to CSDR*

Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. At the welcome assembly, families viewed two movies, *Through Your Child's Eyes: American Sign Language*, and the CSDR virtual tour. Parents enjoyed learning more about ASL for improved communication with their children, and getting real insights of campus life. At the dinner party, families excitedly watched our CSDR Superintendent being a wonderful BBQ chef, and enjoyed eating the food!

A variety of activities occurred on both days that promoted learning and bonding. Everybody toured the student health services that ensured parents of their children's welfare during the year. One certain evening event "Win It" inspired lots of laughter, seeing younger students getting ahead of the older students, or beating their own parents, in a healthy competition! As children gathered part of the day for supervised activities, parents met with principals, speech teachers, and counselors to learn about the services offered to their children at CSDR.



A student panel shared personal stories at school and in the cottages. A scaven-

ger hunt on campus involved lots of running, which was a good way to learn



*Learning more about each other during a game activity*

about the CSDR campus!

The final workshop, "Social Networking", provided by the counseling department, covered the importance for parents to monitor their children's network access. Networking benefits are plenty, although parents need to be aware of the specific online actions for their children's safety. This workshop was an eye-opener to many.

As New Family Orientation coordinator, I am happy that the weekend went well. I am grateful to the sponsors: Sorenson, CAC, and CODIE for the support in making this event happen, and to our committee who worked hard during the weekend. I saw that parents felt satisfaction knowing that their children would be in good hands at CSDR, with full knowledge of what to expect in the year ahead. I am especially pleased to see the families develop connections with each other, making new friends. This amazing weekend was a great way of welcoming the new families to our community at CSDR. 🐾

~ Terri Vincent,  
Coordinator of Family  
Education



*Terri Vincent, New Family Orientation coordinator and Darlene Wadler, School Social Worker*



## Pledge to Good Character

At California School for the Deaf, Riverside, we are proud to be using the CHARACTER COUNTS! program in our school community. CHARACTER COUNTS! strengthens our students through character education. A person of character is a good person and someone to look up to and admire. This person knows the difference between right and wrong and tries to do what is right. Also, a person with character sets a good example for everyone and makes the world a better place. The person of character lives according to the "Six Pillars of Character": **TRUSTWORTHINESS**, **RESPECT**, **RESPONSIBILITY**, **FAIRNESS**, **CARING** and **CITIZENSHIP**.

Under the program of CHARACTER COUNTS! at CSDR, we also provide preventative programs such as Red Ribbon Week, CHARACTER COUNTS! Week and Yellow Ribbon/Violence Prevention Week. The school and residence programs will integrate these programs into activities, classroom teaching and by demonstrating good character. Each month will be assigned to a pillar of the character.

The dates for these programs are:

Red Ribbon Week:

October 24 – 28, 2011.

Yellow Ribbon Week/Violence Prevention Week:

February 13 – 17, 2012

If you want to learn more about CHARACTER COUNTS!, you can check their website: <http://www.charactercounts.org>. If you have any questions or need more information regarding these programs, please feel free to contact Kelly Gunderson, CHARACTER COUNTS! Coordinator at [kgunderson@cldr-cde.ca.gov](mailto:kgunderson@cldr-cde.ca.gov) or (951) 824 – 8036.

CHARACTER COUNTS! at CSDR!

~ Kelly Gunderson, School Counselor

**Nicolette Obidos' 4th grade class** displayed a beautiful rainbow of our "Character Counts!" program. In our class, each student represents a pillar of "Character Counts!" All of the students are encouraged to practice the pillars throughout the year. As you can see in the



Character Counts! at CSDR

photo, their shirt colors represent their pillar and the photos of themselves signing the pillar, which strongly sends the message of how important we apply Character Counts!

Thanks to Candice Macy, mother of a student in our class and also the high school Visual Arts Teacher, for making these beautiful shirts! 🐾

~ Nicolette Obidos, 4th Grade Teacher



4th graders express through photographed ASL signs on their T-shirts each positive character trait encouraged at school

## 5th Graders Design T-Shirts

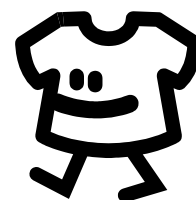


*5th graders voting for the best T-shirt design*

On August 31, the fifth grade classes ventured into new waters.... What, you ask, are the waters into which they so willingly wandered? Our daring 5th graders are designing a special t-shirt to represent the awesomeness of being in 5th grade at CSDR. A dynamic duo from our High School department, Graphic Arts teacher Wes Rinella and Transition Partnership Program teacher Don Burns, paid our students a visit to discuss possible ideas and artwork for the t-shirts. Our charming cubbies exuded excitement as they brainstormed their ingenious ideas around the room. They pored over and pondered the wondrous ways

in which they can represent their class on a t-shirt. This becomes a very special t-shirt that only the fifth graders will have on campus. We want our fifth graders to feel special about being in their last year of elementary school. 🐾

~ Susan Johnson and Anita Metroka, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Team Teachers



*Graphic Arts teacher Wes Rinella explains T-shirt design with 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Team Teacher Georgette Visco*





## Pre-Kindergartners Using Cognitive and Motor Skills in P.E.

During the first two weeks of P.E., Pre-Kindergartners had fun participating in various activities: space awareness, basic locomotor and traveling skills ( which involve skipping, hopping, galloping, and demonstrating the ability to stop quickly ), rhythms, balancing, and hand and eye coordination to improve their cognitive, motor, affective, and physical development. We review safety awareness as often as possible.

Each domain of our Pre-K Movement P.E. program is presented:

1 ) Movement Concepts and Motor Skills: Students receive plenty of opportunities to develop an understanding of movement concepts (body awareness, space awareness, effort, and relationships ) and build competence and confidence in their ability to perform a variety of motor skills (locomotor, non-locomotor, and manipulative ).

2 ) Cognitive: P.E. activities are designed with both the physical and the cognitive development of children in mind. Hands-on experiences encourage our students to question, integrate, analyze, communicate, and apply cognitive concepts.

3 ) Affective Development: Activities are designed to allow students the opportunity to work together to improve their social and cooperation skills. These activities also help students develop a positive self-concept.

All students are involved in activities that allow them to remain continuously active. Classes are designed to meet students ' need for active

participation in all learning experiences. Each child is given a chance to show pride in his/her accomplishments. 🐾

~ Hetty Rothenberg, Physical Education Teacher



*Above:*  
Students engage in locomotor and traveling skills activity

*Right: Students throw bean bags over and under the hoops, gradually increasing their distance in this "Throwing*



## Benefits of Group Play

Often, children are on a tight schedule and often left with no time to explore and play with other children. Children' s play life has many purposes. It is the way children learn about themselves and the surroundings. Through group play, they practice their language skills and develop their small and large motor skills. Not only that, play encourages their creativity, self-esteem and independence. It is critical to create an environment that protects children and allows them to play without fear. This is their opportunity to learn about the world. They learn best in a caring and safe environment where they are safe and valued, their physical needs are met then they feel psychologically secured especially at this age. 🐾



~ Jenni Kysella, Parent Infant Program Coordinator

*"PIPers learn valuable skills in group play settings with teacher, Jenni Kysella*

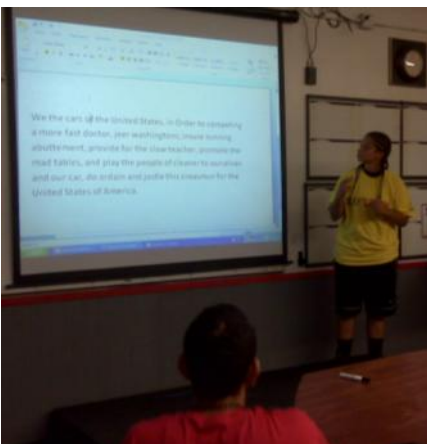


## Celebrating Constitution Day

Constitution Day commemorates the formation and signing of the U.S. Constitution by thirty-nine brave men on September 17, 1787, recognizing all who, are born in the U.S. or by naturalization, have become citizens. The

Social Studies department celebrated Constitution day by having a presentation in the Bummy Student Center. Students enjoyed cross-curricular activities to learn more about the Constitution. One of the activities was a “Mad Libs” game in which students put random adjectives, nouns, verbs, and other parts of English into the frame-work of the preamble. Boy, would our government be run differently if we were in charge! This was good review of grammar, as well. Mathematics was also used as students figured out how old the Constitution was. 2011-1789 is 222 years old. Happy Birthday, Constitution!

We also discussed how the Constitution came about: the reasons for the Revolutionary War, the Articles of Confederation and some of the freedoms guaranteed to us by the Constitution. Some of those freedoms are the right to assemble, freedom of the press, and freedom of religion, the right to bear arms, jury trials and many more.



HS Student Paradise Larizza reads the “Preamble Mad Libs”

We also discussed how the Constitution divides the power between the Executive, Legislative and Judicial branches. We had excellent participation and involvement by students who attended. Next year,

feel free to bring your classes to the show! 🐾

~Roy McCrory, HS Social Studies Teacher

## Reading Rocks!



9th Grader Alana Smith reaches her goal!

Teaching students the satisfaction that comes with reaching goals comes in many forms. Language Arts and Social Studies teachers in middle school and high school are encouraging students to meet reading goals so they can earn free rock climbing lessons at Threshold Rock Climbing Gym in Riverside. The thrill of reaching the top of a wall is very similar to the thrill of reading. Both are adventures that we often wish could go on forever! The gym is providing free lessons, equipment rental and use of the gym for students that meet reading goals set by their teachers. The school is providing transportation to and from the gym and an interpreter. We meet in front of the school at 6:00 p.m. and return at 9:00 p.m. \* Below are the dates for each department – please encourage students to take part in the adventures of reading and the adventures of climbing!

~ Melissa Brown, Reading Specialist 🐾

### \* High School Reading Rocks dates:

October 26 , January 25 , March 28

### \* Middle School Reading Rocks dates:

November 30, February 29, April 25



## A Californian's Tale

With the onset of a new school year approaching, teachers often scramble to find ways to make learning enjoyable. This school year I decided to start off with something relevant to all of our students –

California. What better way to do this than by reading the Mark Twain short story *A Californian's Tale*? The plot discusses the gold mining that took place over a century ago, and the devastation it caused, to individuals,

the end of the story leaving students in awe. Their assignment, to recreate the cottage that Henry lived in based on exact details from the story. To my delighted surprise, students (Emily Forsberg/Craig Long and



Jeremy Warshaw/Camac Kyre) took on this assignment with a passion fueled by a desire for perfection. It took the students one week, of working in pairs, sharing tasks, materials, brainstorming, working after school and diligently putting every last detail together to achieve, what I believe is, a truly sensational

families, and entire communities. This story takes a close look at the lives of miners who stayed in California beyond the end of the “golden era.” It describes the home of one man in particular, Henry, who awaits the arrival of his beloved wife. With an unexpected twist at



replica of Henry's cottage. Here is a sneak peak at what they accomplished. Enjoy!

To wrap up this lesson, students participated in a gold mining adventure at the Jurupa Cultural Center on September 21<sup>st</sup> along with the history and science

departments.

Everybody had fun, learning along the way! 🐾

~ Gloria Daniels, HS English Teacher



## Harvest Festivals, Storytelling, and Tricks or Treats



Almost a hundred dressed-up children came to the 5th annual harvest festival. The Social Hall on Wednesday October 26 was transformed into a frightening Haunted House that children of all ages wanted to go through several times. All children were dressed up in scary or adorable costumes for prizes. A pet mastiff was transformed into a lion. The games and art crafts were fun, and came with great prizes. Thank you to all who volunteered to provide delicious bake sales, and did the setting up and cleaning. 🐾

~Tiffany Cochran., PSWT President and CSDR Parent

# Free Classes



## For Parents & Families of C.S.D.R. students

(Must be at least 9 years old to participate)

### Choose Your Class

**Beginners:** This is designed for people who have never taken a sign language class before. Lessons are structured around basic vocabulary, related to home, family, fingerspelling, grammar, simple dialogues and information about Deaf culture.

**Beyond Beginners:** This class is a continuation of the beginner ASL class. It is designed to help students increase their vocabulary base, communication ability, grammatical knowledge, Deaf culture awareness and confidence level.

Classes will begin Oct. 11, 2011

Last class will be Feb. 14, 2012

Beginners will be at 6 pm to 7 pm

Beyond Beginners will meet from 7 pm to 8 pm

No classes on 11/22, 12/20, 12/27

Class will meet in Middle School Classroom C-1

### REGISTER NOW

Send registration form back to CSDR with your child as soon as possible.

For more information contact:

Nanci Shrager,  
Special Instructional Projects Supervisor

[nshrager@cldr-cde.ca.gov](mailto:nshrager@cldr-cde.ca.gov)  
951 248-7700 ext. 6547

Spanish 951 248-7700 ext. 7243



*Ms. Wilson cannot eat concrete and tile grout!*

## Birthday Prank on the Teacher

Staff who are taking ASL class on campus surprised teacher Sharon Wilson with a birthday party, that included a large round cake with chocolate-brown frosting. To Ms. Wilson's surprise, the cake could not be cut through! Rick Farrell, the supervisor of Building Trades and Plants Operation, and CPO employee, Sandor Szabados, both students in ASL class, created a realistic looking chocolate cake out of concrete, with tile grout for the frosting! What a spirited bunch of staff we have in ASL class! 🐾



## School for Deaf Chief Hosts Halloween Event

Riverside Press-Enterprise by Laurie Lucas

( Reprinted with Permission )

For Mal Grossinger, superintendent of the California School for the Deaf, the trick is to connect with students and serve as a role model.

So for a treat, why not invite them once a year to his Orangecrest home for a little soiree?



Photo by Teri Sentelle

*Children receive their Halloween "Treat" as they view the story*

That's just what he did Monday. Disguised as a witch with long, stringy hair, pointy hat and tattered dress worn over his jeans, Grossinger hosted his second annual Halloween party for 35 kids and their parents.

He and his wife, Linda, decorated their house with spider webs, grotesque masks and the ghosts of costumes past, such as a severed foot.

"They know I'm the superintendent who runs the school," he said, signing through an interpreter, Laurie Waggoner.

"I'm someone for them to look up to. They see me on campus, run up to me and hug me. It melts my heart."

It melted it again Halloween. As Grossinger sat in a chair signing "The Skeleton and the Mummy," the young eyes of an Egyptian queen, Cat Woman, Harry Potter, The Joker and a princess stayed glued to his flying fingers and expressions.

The superintendent provided such sound effects as



Photo by Teri Sentelle

*Superintendent Mal storysigns The Skeleton and the Mummy*

"huff puff" and "flippety flap" through big gestures, grimaces and gasps to the very quiet group. In a case of mistaken identity, it turned out that the skeleton and the mummy were really the best of friends with no need to be afraid of one another.

After the story, Linda Grossinger, dressed as Raggedy Ann in a red wig, served cupcakes.

Her face full of painted whiskers, her mouth full of cake, Winter Slyder, 6, said she was "Catrina."

Skylin Macy, 9, wearing a mermaid costume and lipstick, loved last year's party so much, she's been asking Grossinger every few months when he'd throw another one. "My friends are here," she said through the interpreter. "I liked the superintendent's story."

Erika Thompson, who has worked at the California School for the Deaf in Riverside for 15 years, donned a Spiderwoman costume to match her two Spiderman-clad sons, Caleb, 5, and Blake, 3. Both can hear and sign.

Thompson was thrilled to see Blake socialize, signing and talking with the children. "This is new for him," she said through Waggoner. "At his pre-school, he doesn't use his voice. He has more confidence here. It's a good place to participate through sign language."



## Student Leadership Retreat—High School



*Working together to carry each other across a mock electric fence*

During the weekend of September 16, twenty-six high school student organization officers traveled to nearby Big Bear City for a Leadership Retreat.

An envoy of 7 vans raced up to the San Bernardino National Forest at six thousand feet elevation. The air as crisp and the sky was blue!

The scholars started the program in formed groups to create their team names —Navy Seals, Rwar, Red Elmo, and The Jokers.

Mr. Connor taught about team building and trusting each other. Scholars had their eyes blindfolded and learned to follow instructions by a leader using communication. They were thorough from point A to point B in this exciting challenge!

Mr. Liu presented about the fundamentals of communication. The scholars explored their communication styles, misleads, keys to success and failure, and productive communication. It was a fun workshop!

The night 's workshop focused on social challenges. Ms. Shelly Gravatt and Mr. Ed Peigneux gave some excellent examples about education settings, clique preferences, races, and intelligence gain/loss. How will that improve at CSDR and the office of ASBG? We had amazing feedback and student stories about their experiences.

By morning, the students were refreshed for a workshop on parliamentary procedures, with Mr. Branton and Mr. Peigneux.



Ms. Reagan Anders ran an outstanding Discovery program with a mock electric fence. 26 students had to use their logistics to travel from one side to the other side without touching the wires. All the strategic plans on how to bring everyone to the other side were supernatural!

Principal Hile came to the leadership retreat and asked the students for their wish list which was abundant, focusing on five categories: Education, Sports, Residential, Friends, and Technology. Ms. Zarembka followed up with the wish list and helped the students prioritize the items. The scholars worked hard to break down the ranks, and developed an action plan.

Mal Grossinger, our school superintendent, used the action plan, to collaborate the administration 's procedures. It was very productive and the best tool ever . The scholars could see how the administration works. Mal gave us a lesson about simple procedure, ranking, to discussion, to communication chain, to meetings, to resolution. One task that scholars wanted was to have every student own a laptop. The project has begun. Mal is expected to have a final report within three months.

By Sunday, everyone was full of energy because of the crisp air and the atmosphere. They wanted to stay one full week. Mr. Anderson asked the scholars to complete their own leadership booklet – Identify Yourself. It was fun and meaningful with the three circles activity-a Venn diagram. They described anything possible in their circles. High percentages showed the students at CSDR identified themselves in education, then family, values, friends, and soon... It was fun! 🐾

~ Mike Anderson, Student Organizations Coordinator





## Student Leadership Retreat—Middle School



The Middle School Student Body Government (SBG) had their second annual Leadership Retreat on September 27, 2011. SBG members learned numerous leadership skills to help them effectively carry out their duties as SBG members. By the end of the day, students were empowered with leadership tools such as team-working, public speaking, and parliamentary procedures. Throughout the day, we did not stay in the classroom and learn about these skills- instead, students learn these skills firsthand through role-playing, activities, or games. As you can see in the photos, the students had blast turning themselves into Middle School leaders! 🐾

~ Ryan Zarembka, Middle School Teacher and SBG Sponsor

## A Break at the Lake during the High School Retreat



After our break from the variety of workshops on September 17, several students escaped to the lake to spend time there. Some campers rode paddleboats, canoes, and/or kayaks around the pristine lake for an hour. Our staff, Gloria Daniels and Jeannette Zarembka, took a motorboat with some scholars to kill time. Camac K. and Jeremy W. almost fell into the water while canoeing against a strong current. We were able to get back to the shore safely. Emily F. and Alexa O. rode a kayak and they played with other campers. We had a lot of fun during the beautiful day on the lake in Big Bear because the weather was still in early fall and it was sunny. 🐾

~ Jeremy Warshaw '12, High School Student



## Upcoming Jr. NAD Conference and Pageant

We are a few weeks away from the Jr. NAD national conference! Our high school students are working hard planning for the conference coming up on November 18 – 22, 2011. About 25 schools have confirmed they are coming to our school! We also are very excited to have the presence of some distinguished guests such as Howard Rosenlum, NAD CEO, Frank Turk, Father of our youth leaders, Bummy Burnstein, one of our amazing Deaf leaders, Bobbie Beth Scoggins, NAD President, John Maucere, Deaf Comedian, Delia Lozano-Martinez, Coordinator of Student Diversity at Gallaudet, to name a few. Come here at CSDR and join our students' exciting leadership conference and the Jr. NAD pageant on November 20! Being the closest state school to the movie industry, "Hollywood" is the pageant theme of the year. Check our school's Jr. NAD website for more information: <http://csdr-cde.ca.gov/jrnad>

jrnad 🐾

~ Jeannette Zarembka, Jr.NAD Co-Chairperson

California School for  
the Deaf, Riverside  
proudly announces ...

Junior National  
Association of the Deaf  
Conference 2011



**Jr. NAD National Conference**  
at  
**California School for the Deaf,  
Riverside** 2011

**HOLLYWOOD PREMIERE**  
**A RED CARPET SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT EVENT**

**MR. & MISS JR NAD PAGEANT 2011**  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2011  
DOORS OPEN - 6:30 - SOCIAL HALL  
CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF, RIVERSIDE  
3044 HORACE STREET  
RIVERSIDE CA 92508

**ADMISSION:**  
PRE-SALE: \$5.00 - AT DOOR: \$7.00  
PRE-SALE TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION:  
[HTTP://WWW.CSDR-CDE.CA.GOV/JRNAD](http://www.csdr-cde.ca.gov/jrnad)  
EMAIL: [JRNADPAGEANTCSDR@GMAIL.COM](mailto:jrnadpageantcsdr@gmail.com)  
PROCEEDS WILL GO TO JR NAD AT CSDR

**DON'T MISS THIS!!!**  
We have about female contestants and male  
contestants participating in this exciting pageant!  
Don't miss this opportunity to watch our contestants from all over the nation!  
Go and buy tickets as soon as you can!  
Email [JrNADPageantCSDR@gmail.com](mailto:jrnadpageantcsdr@gmail.com).

**DON'T MISS THE FABULOUS CONTESTANTS FROM ALL OVER THE NATION!**

## Honorable Visit from Chief Deputy Superintendent



*State Chief Deputy Superintendent Zeiger interviews HS Student Leaders*

Richard Zeiger serves as the Chief Deputy Superintendent to California State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson. Zeiger is responsible for managing and coordinating all functions of the California Department of Education (CDE).

On October 4, Zieger toured the CSDR campus including the new cottages, engaged in meetings with the CSDR directors, and interviewed the high school student leaders,

Superintendent Zieger has given his full support to the CSDR educational and enrichment programs. We look forward to further collaboration with Zieger and other CDE officials. 🐾



## Scale Crusher



Team Coaches with Emcee John Maucere '82

They crushed their weight away! They came from other states for one purpose- to shed the pounds. They met with Paul Maucere ( '79 ), Program Director. Winners from each city, Austin, Indianapolis and Los Angeles and their team coaches were invited to attend the Grand Finale, sponsored by Scale Crushers. The Z and emcee was the one and only John Maucere ( '82 ). The Grand Finale was featured LIVE on Saturday, September 10 for the world to watch online via SportsMX website. The following finalist, Timothy Gonzales, Lori Taylor, and Paul Howle from each city attended the Grand Finale of the Scale Crusher 2011 contest for a chance to win \$1,000. All were winners but only one was the Scale Crusher Champion; Paul Howle from Indiana. The winner, finalists team coaches, and the Program Director himself attended CSDR on September 9-10, 2011. They shared their stories and how they have so far achieved their goals. They will continue to use the program and have learned so much from it. You could see the emotions on their faces and that of their families. It was really encouraging to hear their stories of success. It was great to see them encourage the younger generation on eating healthier and the importance of exercise. It was great to see Superintendent Malcolm Grossinger and his wife Mrs. Grossinger cheering in victory for the Champion. 🐾

~ <http://sportsmx.com/events/scale-crusher-2011/grand-finale>



Paul Howle wins \$1,000 for losing the most weight



Photo by Fred Gravatt

CSDR Superintendent Mal and wife Linda rally among the crowd

## CELEBRATE Hispanic Heritage Month

### Series of Cultural Workshops

Teachers Leticia Ruiz and Carmen Croasmun ( '02) taught school-wide students and staff on September 30 about monthly Hispanic celebrations and traditions. They kindly offered to share their Hispanic resources to other teachers for use in classroom to enrich cultural awareness. Everyone was encouraged to bring in their Latino contacts, as well as and multi-cultural arts, literature, or current events to class if the teachers themselves are not Latinos. During a second workshop, Jeannette Zarembka revealed her Colombian heritage and her memories of growing up with Columbian relatives. She also gave ideas on how to apply cultural sensitivity to the classroom. This includes being aware of the traditional celebrations that students were possibly involved in with their families, and asking students to share in class.

On October 17, Elementary students at each grade level took the lead to give performances and workshops at their own booths about the culture and language of the Hispanic people– the music, religion, clothing, food, games, and Hispanic leaders, Deaf and hearing. 🐾



*Top right: Students serve Spanish rice to booth visitors*

*Bottom right: Children take turns playing a Spanish game, "Loteria"*

### Donna Schiller Award to Parent Jeannette Zarembka

Donna Schiller was a beloved parent volunteer who dedicated her time in CSDR classrooms until her untimely death in 2004. Ever since, the Community Alliance Council (CAC) recognizes a parent every year for outstanding contributions. Alla Soudakoff, the previous award recipient in 2010, presented the Donna Schiller 2011 Award to Jeannette Zarembka.

Though a busy high school English teacher, Jeannette is very involved in sports as a

devout fan. She brings her own children to the High School athletic games, to show her support. She puts

ideas and radiant energy into everything she does for CSDR. Jeannette started the "Kids Zone", a place for young children to play at Homecoming games, and the two-day Deaf Nation Expo. Jeannette puts children first at school events. She has a big heart for CSDR, always giving, and always entertaining. 🐾



*2011 Award winner with Lauren Schiller ('06), daughter of the late Donna Schiller*

~ CAC Officers



## Deaf Pride Parade



"I can! I will try! Bye-bye I can't! I can, can, can!" This was the news that Tammie Bervel and Susan Stewart's 1st grade cubbies spread to all the classrooms in the elementary department during their recent "Deaf Pride" parade. After learning about their school, Character Counts, and how to believe in themselves, 1st grade cheerleaders had a mission. Each student in elementary would promise to have an **"I can"** attitude every day. They distributed "I can" posters to each classroom and asked the students to sign their names in allegiance. The procession marched all the way to visit the high-ranking administrators in the office of Superintendent Mal. Now Elementary can do anything!

~ Tammie Bervel, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher



## Deaf Awareness Week



The annual Deaf Awareness Week was again another success. The week started with a picnic with several hundred people in attendance, and concluded with "Half n' Half" performance by ASL and music performers Sherry Hicks and Michael Velez, both of whom are children of Deaf adults, and stand-up Deaf comedian Branton Stewart, at the Riverside Plaza with over 300 fans.

The City of Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge established the Mayor's Model Deaf Committee. Members include Bummy Burstein as its chair, Helen Johnson-Peterson as vice-chair, Agatha Ward as treasurer, Jetta Hace from the Mayor's office as secretary, and several other members from the City of Riverside, including Laurie Waggoner, from the Outreach office at CSDR. During the plaza performances, awards were given to several businesses and individuals for their continued commitment to the Deaf community.



~ Laurie Waggoner, Public Information/Volunteer Coordinator





### Student Athlete of the Month: Vianney Bernal



Junior Vianney Bernal has worked hard during practices without missing a day. She takes advice given to her from the coaching staff. Vianney represents the six pillars of Character Counts on and off the court. Her performance has been consistent in every practice and game. She is involved in many other activities off court. She broke some records in 6 different core areas in the "Bigger, Faster, Stronger" program. She is also an outstanding student with a 3.14 GPA. Her hard work and dependability certainly make her deserving of this honor.

Congratulations, Vianney!

~ David Hamilton, Athletic Director

## Middle School Football and the Rubidoux Bowl

On September 22, Middle School tackle football game made history! We snapped Chapel Calvary Moreno Valley's winning streak against us since 2005 by beating them! Our prided team played hard with their heart and won the game, 42 to 23. Our team practiced really hard and prepared well for this game and it paid off! Hats off to all players and coaches that did a superior team work. But the season is still young! We are winning some games, and we are hungry for more! Please come and show your support at our games. GO CUBS! 🐾

~Ben McCrory, Head Coach and High School Teacher



*Middle School football team made history with a successful first game*



*Football Team in a Subway Commercial, See p. 23*



## Homecoming School Spirit



*Homecoming King Mark Garcia and Queen Emily Forsberg*

## High School Heroes in a Subway Commercial

"The football team, every one of them, are heroes. Our deaf players, their attitude is they can accomplish anything." "says Laurie Waggoner, Public Information coordinator at CSDR. David Hamilton, CSDR Athletic Director explains, "They have gone through obstacles and frustration, just basic communication, they haven't had that. Wherever they've turned they had to struggle with basic communication, but here at the Deaf school they finally have a place where they can communicate. You'll see a lot of body language out on the field, a lot of gestures, movements and facial expressions. That's an important part of communicating."

Player Joshua Macedo says, "If there's a situation that comes up, I ask the coach what he wants me to do. He tells me, I get everyone's attention and then I change the secret plays. We change it and just communicate by tapping each other and communicating with the group. Everyone communicates and then we go for it!" Director Hamilton continues that opponents are often really surprised, like "Whoo, Deaf people can play! They hit hard! Wow, I'm really impressed!" Superintendent Mal sees that when they're off the

field, they go to school and they are role models for many of our other students. Player Kelvin Nhan admits "Football helps me to focus, helps me to prepare for my future, doing homework helps me get my GPA up." Superintendent: "Subway is across the street from our school. A lot of students, teachers, and staff are constantly going to that store. They are wonderful people. They are very eager to learn sign language." Waggoner ends with this sentiment, "I see a bright future. I see anything that they want to happen in their lives possible." *YouTube "Cubs Football—Subway High School Heroes"* 🐾



*Filming of the CSDR football team at Subway across the street*

## Welcoming Students to Residential Life



*High School Welcome Back Pool Party*

In the evening on August 31, a Welcome Back Party was held at the swimming pool area by HS Boys One. The purpose of this party was to welcome new and old students to get to know each other better. It started off well and everyone had fun swimming at the pool. The students played water polo and then later ate cupcakes and ice cream. 🐾



*Middle School Students*

### Middle School Ice Breaker Party:

The Middle School dorms hosted an ice breaker party for returning students on September 6, 2011. Here we welcomed everyone back and took the time to introduce the new 5<sup>th</sup> graders who moved to our area. The party was well attended and turned out to be a huge success. We had over 60 students participate. Events of the day were introductions using a big block of ice. Students introduced themselves, said a few things about who they are and then grabbed a pick to get a good stab into the large ice block. The ice block was slowly chipped away until it was finally "broken". Hence the term – "ice breaker party". Next on the agenda was

socializing and food. We had fun playing games such as blindfolded volleyball, obstacle course and a four way tug of war. The party ended with delicious root beer floats. It was a memorable and fun experience. 🐾

~ Heather Dans-McCrory, Residential Life Counselor

### Special Needs:

The boys are feeling welcomed and excited for a new school year and are enjoying living in one of the new cottages on



*Special Needs Students*

campus. They have already adjusted to their surroundings and have taken by example the teachings of Character Counts. Every Thursday we have our Character Counts meetings and we discuss the importance of team work and having the right attitude. Each student has the opportunity to express their concerns and as a whole group they maintain support for one another. Character Counts is a big part of our program. Since its implementation several years ago we have seen a positive change in the boys attitude and character. It has been a wonderful program and we are sure the boys will continue to grow and develop positive character. The staff frequently see students setting examples for one another, as well as following Instructions as part of the Residential Life Peak Program. We expect to see great positive changes this year. Some of the activities we have done this year include bowling, table tennis tournaments and practice for Special Olympics. We are looking forward to our sister school in Fremont to come down in the spring time for the Annual Battle of the California's Bowling Tournament. Our boys are enthusiastic and love to keep busy. There is never a dull moment in our cottage. Let us raise our hands for our Special Needs Boys in D-2. 🐾 ~ Residential Life Staff



## Upcoming Events & Movies



### OPEN HOUSE

11-11-11

Held Annually on Veteran's Day • 8:30 AM—2:00 PM

Registration at Front Lawn • Events at Multi-Purpose Activity Center (MAC)

- ★ Classroom Observations
- ★ Cottage Visitations
- ★ Lunch BBQ Sold by Outreach
- ★ Displays & Exhibits
- ★ Museum Tours
- ★ Fundraiser Sales
- ★ Student Performances
- ★ Scholastic Book Fair

Kindergartners won the best artwork for our Open House flyer. Students gently glued dried leaves, flowers, and pasta onto the picture. Honorable mention

## Events

**Silent Sleigh 2011**  
*'Tis the season to celebrate Character Counts!*

**Mark your calendar!**  
**It is CSDR's annual**

**SILENT SLEIGH**  
 Thursday, December 8, 2011  
 9:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Our theme this year:**  
*'Tis the season to celebrate Character Counts!*

Please join us for the 24th Anniversary of "Silent Sleigh" at the California School for the Deaf, Riverside.

California School for the Deaf, Riverside  
 Attn: Julie Reese  
 Residence Life  
 3044 Horace Street  
 Riverside, CA 92506  
 (951) 824-8110 (voice & VP)  
[jreese@cldr-cde.ca.gov](mailto:jreese@cldr-cde.ca.gov)

ROSA LEE TIMM • RUSSELL HARVARD

**VERSA EFFECT**

**\$11 Admission**  
 Friday, Saturday, December 9, 10, 2011 @ 7 PM (CC) (No CC for Saturday)  
 Sunday, December 11, 2011 @ 3 PM (CC)

California School for the Deaf, Riverside @ CSDR Social Hall  
 3044 Horace Street, Riverside, CA 92506

Sponsored by Gravatt Video Productions  
 Net proceeds benefit CSDR Students Fund and CSDRAA  
 Contact information : Gravatt Video Productions - [aslvideos@charter.net](mailto:aslvideos@charter.net)

Tickets will be sold at the door if Available  
 DVDs will be available for sale

**PG**

[WWW.ASLFILMS.COM](http://WWW.ASLFILMS.COM)

## Movies

California School for the Deaf, Riverside  
 3044 Horace Street, Riverside, CA 92506  
 Social Hall

**THE HAMMER**  
 BASED ON THE LIFE OF MATT HAMILL

January 6 - 7, 2012:  
 Friday: 7 pm,  
 Saturday: 2 pm and 7 pm

Admission:  
 \$10 Pre-Pay  
<http://cldr.bigcartel.com>  
 or CSDR Front Desk  
 \$12 at Door

Popcorn,  
 Candy and  
 Drinks Sold!

Net proceeds benefit CSDR Outreach



## CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF, RIVERSIDE

## PAWSitive Reflections



3044 Horace Street  
Riverside, CA 92506  
951-782-6500



Special thanks for donations  
to support CSDR programs:

- Sorenson Communications
- PSWT
- CODIE
- Target
- Costco

*Other donations will be  
listed in the next edition.*

## Mark Your Calendar . . .

*For updates, sports, and other details,, go to the website school calendar*

October 2011: Month	
10/21	Deafhood/Diversity Training & School Closed-IEP Day
10/24	Red Ribbon Drug Awareness Week Kickoff
10/27	Picture Make up Day
10/31	Halloween
November 2011: Month	
11/1	CAHSEE English Language Arts Exam
11/2	CAHSEE Math Exam
11/6	Daylight Savings-- " Fall Back "
11/8	Community Alliance Council (CAC ) Meeting
11/9	Middle School Scoliosis Exam
11/11	Open House & MS/SN-SBG Assembly & Career Day
11/18-22	Junior National Association of the Deaf Conference
11/20	Jr. NAD Pageant
11/21-25	School Closed

### ASL Class

#### Schedule:

*October—*

**11, 18, 25;**

*November—*

**1, 8, 15, 29**

*December—*

**6, 13**

*January—*

**3, 10, 17, 24, 31**

December 2011: Month	
12/02	Holiday Party for Staff
12/06	Community Alliance Council (CAC ) Meeting
12/08	Silent Sleigh
12/09	Middle School Parent Conferences
12/9-10	ASL Films hosted at CSDR: "Versa Effect "
12/19-30	School Closed
January 2012: Month	
1/01	New Years Day
1/02	School Closed
1/03	Classes Resume
1/6 - 7	Movie hosted at CSDR " The Hammer: Life of Matt Hamill "
1/10	Community Alliance Council (CAC ) Meeting
1/12	Middle School SBG Assembly
1/16	Martin Luther King ( School Closed )
1/18	HS Residential Ice Skating & Midwinter Ball
1/25	HS Residential Winter Fest Party